Interim Report on the death of tigers

*459. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether interim report on the death of tigers in the Nandankanan Zoo has been received;

(b) if so, what are the contents thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken to reduce the number of tigers and other animals in over populated zoos?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Ministry of Environment and Forests have received the report of the Committee which was constituted to ascertain the causes of deaths of tigers and to suggest ways to avoid recurrence of the same in Nandankanan Zoo, Orissa. The report has confirmed that the main cause of the death of tigers was 'Trypanosomiasis'. It has confirmed that the choice of the drug 'Berenil' used by the Zoo Administration was appropriate. It has also been observed that a large number of tigers in the zoo, lack of proper hygience, and the onset of monsoon caused the increase in the incidence of vectors. The main recommendations of the report submitted by the Committee are as as follows:—

(i) Screening of tigers, lions and other animals should be conducted on a regular basis and appropriate treatment be provided on the basis of the screening results.

(ii) Restraining facilities and isolation wards should be upgraded for effective treatment of the animals.

(iii) Immediate repair of the safari and boundary wall to safeguard against ingress of livestock.

(iv) AJ1 carnivores should be provided feed in individual feeding cells to ensure supply of food in hygienic conditions and facilitating the physical handling of animals.

(v) Proper checking of the meat fed to the animals.

(vi) Improved cleanliness and better drainage.

(vii) Officer of the level of at least Deputy Conservator of Forests should be stationed at part with adequate administrative and financial powers.

(viii) Coordination between the Zoo Hospital and Orissa Veterinary College in matters of treatment of zoo animals.

(c) The steps contemplated to reduce the number of tigers and other animals in overpopulated zoos are as follows:

(i) Separation of sexes.

(ii) Sterilisation of animals.

(iii) Transfer of animals to zoos where spare housing accommodation is available.

Financial Assistance for Hospital Projects

*460. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial assistance provided by Government for hospital projects in the country during last three years, State-wise;

(b) the terms and conditions of such allocations;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to reserve beds for the poor in private hospitals; and

(d) if so, the percentage thereof and the number of private hospitals, where provision for reservation of beds for the poor has been made, alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Health is a State subject under the Constitution of India. It is the responsibility of the respective State Government to provide financial assistance for hospital projects keeping in view their priorities and avilability of resources. However, for upgrading secondary health care systems, the following seven States have been provided with World Bank Assistance under the State Health Systems Projects:—

State	Project Outlay
Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 608.00 crores
West Bengal	Rs. 698.00 crores
Karnataka	Rs. 546.00 crores
Punjab	Rs. 425.00 crores